

Sample Slab Update #2 – April 2015

Welcome Sample Slab Collectors

Many newsletters do not survive past their first issue, but this one at least lasted until the second. Sample Slab Update seeks to unite and inform collectors of sample slabs and similar coin holders.

I plan to release this newsletter about every two months. If you know someone who would like to receive it, please give me their email or have them email me. At the same time, I will quickly remove you from the mailing list on request.

I hope that, as a sample collector, you find this brief publication of interest in the coming months. Please contact me for any reason.

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News – Market Notes

The most interesting sample on eBay recently was the previously unknown PCGS MS64 1921 Morgan. Although 1921 Morgans with the grade “CIRCULATED” are common, this example, unlisted in references, has a numeric grade. It sold for \$182.50, or three to four times as much the price of a “CIRCULATED” example.

I ended the sales of the 200 coin Grader Hoard in mid-March after selling all but seven coins. I plan to hold back these last few, all of which are more valuable pieces, for about two months or maybe even until the fall.

Someone must be making a year set of all-zero PCGS rattler dimes. Although all are desirable, a 1959 sold on 3/22/15 for \$204.06 – much more than the typical \$100 for these samples. A collector also paid \$525 for a 1957 all-zero rattler about a year ago on 4/22/14, which is the highest price of which I know for a sample slab.

News – Book Project

I steadily work on the planned sample slab book, compiling prices, obtaining photos, and, most importantly, adding to the catalog. My goal is to write one short chapter in its entirety before moving on to the rest of the book. This will teach me what is involved in making a catalog and I can learn from my mistakes. If I never finish the book, in addition, the chapter will be a useful reference by itself. I plan to give away the chapter to Sample Slab Update readers and welcome comments.

Cameron Keifer's excellent sampleslabs.com is the closest thing to a sample catalog that exists today. I was very happy to receive permission to use photos and text from the site. I also write to eBay sellers to ask for permission to use images from their listings and almost all agree. If you happen to have images to share with other collectors through the book, please let me know. If you have a scarce or unique slab that you would like to see in the book, I would love to include it and (if you prefer) your name.

Buy and Sell

If you would like to include a buy or sell offer in the next Sample Slab Update, please email it to me. Include an email address or other contact information so sellers or buyers can reach you. I will get started with some buy offers.

1. I am accumulating NGC samples with matching serial numbers, not including 199999. I am looking for matched pairs or triples, or for NGC dimes or other coins with these serials:
 - a. 191578-002
 - b. 204782-002
 - c. 204782-010
 - d. 325977-037
2. I am also looking for samples from obscure graders such as AHCGS, Accugrade/ACG, Compugrade, TruGrade, or others.

I welcome comments, questions, and complaints on this newsletter, so please let me know your thoughts.

Sample Slab Update #2 – April 2015 (sent 3/29/15). By David Schwager, Fountain Valley, California. davidschwager@hotmail.com. Please email me to be added to or removed from the mailing list. Comments and submissions are welcome.